



Director, Foreign Broadcast
Information Service

2927

FBIS-0040/85

STAT

28 January 1985

Deputy Director for
Science and Technology
(ATTN: 
Room 6E45, Headquarters

FYI, Soviet reports on the STAT
"intelligence satellite."

STAT


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Fri Jan 25 14:37

I T E M P R O O F

NAME	BFN	STAT	XREF	P	LOG	DATE	TIME
WIRSV. WIRLOG. 3SOVUN. L55394	LD250801	ORGNL		R 3A	WIR	01/25/85	11:02

HEADLINE: TASS reports pravda comments on space shuttles military mission

SOURCELINE: "Moscow TASS in English 0714 GMT 25 Jan 85

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FOUO=REFERENCE=====BELL=ONLY=====EX=====BULLET/NOTE=====HEAD/LABELSTASS reports pravda comments on space shuttle's military mission=====TAKE INSERT=====PICK-UP WORDS=====MESSAGE NUMBERLD250801SOURCEMoscow TASS in English 0714 GMT 25 Jan 85=====

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(Text) Moscow January 25 TASS -- Preparations are continuing uninterrupted in the United States for spiralling the arms race into outer space which always was and remains part of the "global battlefield" for those in America who dream of achieving military superiority, the national daily "PRAVDA" said in a comment on the blast-off in the United States of the reusable spaceship Discovery on a super-secret, all-military mission.

It has become known from leaks reported in the American press, "PRAVDA" said, that the shuttle is carrying a newest intelligence satellite which will be put in stationary orbit to conduct electronic "surveillance" over Soviet territory and intercept radio messages.

The ''star wars'', the paper said further, is a program said to be aiming to provide a ''space shield'' by deploying a space-based missile defense system. But since it is simultaneously planned to modernize the entire strategic arsenal, the shield becomes a sword -- for dealing the first strike.

The United States, ''PRAVDA'' went on, has already developed numerous spy satellites. It recently held the first tests of an anti-satellite system, a two-stage rocket orbited from an ''F-15'' fighter. Plans provide for deploying such systems in 1987.

An effort is under way to reorganize the structure of the U.S. Defense Department. It has already been announced that the Pentagon has formed a Unified Space Command, and work is proceeding to build a consolidated space operations center and a shuttle military space shuttle launch complex.

Tens of millions of dollars have already been appropriated to fund all these efforts, ''PRAVDA'' concluded.

25 Jan 1102z jmr

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Fri Jan 25 14:38

I T E M P R O O F

NAME	BFN	STAT	XREF	P	LOG	DATE	TIME
WIRSV. WIRLOG. 3SOVUN. L53425	LD242051	ORGNL		P 3A	WIR	01/24/85	21:52

HEADLINE: TASS Reports launch of space shuttle Discovery

SOURCELINE: "Moscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 24 Jan 85

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FOUO=REFERENCE=====BELLS=ONLY=====EX=====BULLET/NOTE=====HEAD/LABELTASS Reports launch of space shuttle 'Discovery'=====TAKE INSERT=====PICK-UP WORDS=====MESSAGE NUMBERLD242051SOURCEMoscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 24 Jan 85=====

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(Text) New York January 24 TASS -- The 'Discovery' shuttle space ship with five astronauts on board was launched in an atmosphere of great secrecy from Cape Canaveral (Florida) today.

Until the very last moment the exact time of the launch, which was delayed by 24 hours because of the danger of icing of fuel tanks, was kept in strict secrecy from the press and the public. There were no official announcements of the estimated parameters of the 'discovery's' orbit and its payload. These unprecedented measures of secrecy are due to the fact that the flight is being conducted exclusively for military purposes and is entirely controlled by the Pentagon.

Observers draw attention first of all to the fact that

''discovery'' has an all-military crew. The commander of the ship is Navy Captain Thomas Mattingly, the crew members are Marine Lieutenant Colonel James Buchli, Air Force LIEUTENANT Colonel Loren Shriver, and Air Force Majors Ellison Onizuka and Gary PAYTON. UPI agency notes that this flight is a new major stride by the Pentagon in using shuttle space ships to place military satellites on near-Earth orbit. The WASHINGTON POST writes in this connection that the prime purpose of ''Discovery's'' present flight is to put in orbit a sophisticated spy satellite to collect intelligence information about the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Treaty allies.

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Sat Jan 26 11:56

I T E M P R O O F

NAME	BFN	STAT	XREF	P	LOG	DATE	TIME
WIRSV. MSGIN . ROUTINE. W61211	LD261545	ORGNL		R		1/26/85	16:52

HEADLINE: Moscow: Discovery Flight to Develop Military Complex in Space
 SOURCELINE: "Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 26 Jan 85

Moscow: Discovery Flight to Develop Military Complex in Space
 { \$f3 } LD261545 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 26 Jan 85 { \$f1 }
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(Text) The American reusable spaceship Discovery is continuing its flight, it was launched into orbit on 24 January in an atmosphere of strict secrecy. Now here are some details.

Several days before the launching the American defense secretary, Caspar Weinberger, demanded in a threatening tone that the press refrain from publishing materials about the flight, since that would be detrimental to the interests of the country's national security. This warning, however, was a belated one since much had already been made public. Back in May last year the head of the Pentagon's agency for advanced research projects (Robert Cooper) informed the congress of some of the aims of the discovery flight, they included the testing of equipment for identifying missiles and other targets in outer sapce. That is, the development of elements of space-based military complexes.

As the American newspaper NEWSDAY writes, the Pentagon's

program for spacecraft includes the study of their opportunities as means of delivery to outer space of special laser guns to be used for the destruction of targets located at a large distance from Earth.

There's enough information of every kind revealing, among other things, that the Discovery may be used for electronic espionage as well. It seems that the American magazine U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT had every reason to describe reusable space ships as work horses for the realization of the star wars program.

The stepping up of activities involving plans to militarize space arouse grave concern in the world and in the United States itself. Congressman Levine declared that the current administration reversed the successful policy of cooperation in the use of space for peaceful purposes, seeking instead to transfer to outer space the destabilizing arms build up. The vice chairman of the British Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, allan, declared on the pages of the London TIMES that Washington's adherence to the program of star wars may turn into a most serious obstacle in the way of achieving progress at the coming Soviet-American talks on space and nuclear weapons. A statement issued by the Canadian organization Center for Arms Control and Disarmament points out that the purpose of the american plan for developing space arms is to win superiority over the Soviet Union and that its implementation may gravely undermine the strategic balance of forces between the East and the West and increase the danger of the outbreak of nuclear war.